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## **CLAIMS**

1. A method of producing an aqueous paint composition comprising:

placing a first premixed aqueous composition in a receiving reservoir, the first aqueous composition selected from a group of premixed aqueous compositions consisting of a pigment composition, a dispersant thickening agent, a high resin content binder, and a low resin content binder; and

placing a second premixed aqueous composition in the receiving reservoir, the second aqueous composition selected from the group of premixed aqueous compositions, the second aqueous composition being a different one of the group of premixed aqueous compositions than the first aqueous composition.

- 1 2. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of mixing the aqueous paint 2 composition.
- The method of claim 2, further comprising the step of selling the aqueous paint
  composition to a consumer.
- 1 4. The method of claim 3, wherein the steps of placing the first premixed aqueous
- 2 composition in the receiving reservoir, placing the second premixed aqueous composition
- 3 in the receiving reservoir, mixing the aqueous paint composition, and selling the aqueous
- 4 paint composition to a consumer are all performed in the same location.

The method of claim 1, wherein the first premixed aqueous paint composition is the pigment composition.

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- 1 6. The method of claim 5, wherein the pigment composition comprises titanium
- 2 dioxide.
- 1 7. The method of claim 6, wherein the pigment composition comprises titanium
- 2 dioxide in the range of 40 to 50 percent, the percentage being based on weight of the
- 3 pigment composition.
- 1 8. The method of claim 7, wherein the pigment composition further comprises water
- of about 25 percent, a mixture of clay and silica of about 15 percent, a viscosity
- 3 controlling agent of about 10 percent, and a combination of dispersant and thickener in an
- 4 amount of less than 5 percent, said percentages being based on weight of the pigment
- 5 composition.
- 1 9. The method of claim 5, wherein the second premixed aqueous paint composition
- 2 is the dispersant thickening agent.
- 1 10. The method of claim 9, wherein the dispersant thickening agent comprises water
- 2 in an amount of about 93 percent, a phosphate-based dispersant in an amount of less than
- 3 1 percent, a cellulosic thickener in an amount of about 1 percent, and a coalescent in an
- 4 amount of 4 to 5 percent.
- 1 11. The method of claim 4, wherein the second premixed aqueous paint composition
- 2 is the high resin content binder.
- 1 12. The method of claim 11, wherein the high resin content binder comprises resin in
- 2 an amount of about 80 percent.

- 1 13. The method of claim 12, wherein the high resin content binder further comprises
- water at about 15 percent and a coalescent at about 2 percent.
- 1 14. The method of claim 5, wherein the second premixed aqueous paint composition
- 2 is the low resin content binder.
- 1 15. The method of claim 14, wherein the low resin content binder comprises about 50
- 2 percent resin.
  - 16. The method of claim 15, wherein the low resin content binder further comprises about 28 percent water, about 7 percent flattening agent, about 11 percent limestone, and about 3.5 percent calcined clay.

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1	17. A method of producing an aqueous paint composition, comprising:	
2	mixing a first aqueous composition, the first aqueous composition selected from a	
3	group of aqueous compositions consisting of a pigment composition, a dispersant	
4	thickening agent, a high resin content binder, and a low resin content binder;	
5	mixing a second aqueous composition, the second aqueous composition selected	
6	from the group of aqueous compositions, the second aqueous composition being a	
7	different one of the group of premixed aqueous compositions than the first aqueous	
8	composition;	
9	storing the first aqueous composition in a first supply reservoir;	
10	storing the second aqueous composition in a second supply reservoir;	
11	supplying the first aqueous composition from the first supply reservoir to a	
12	receiving reservoir; and	
13	supplying the second aqueous composition from the second supply reservoir to	
14	the receiving reservoir.	
1	18. The method of claim 17, wherein the step of storing the first aqueous composition	
2	comprises storing the first aqueous composition for at least one day, and wherein the step	
3	of storing the second aqueous composition comprises storing the second aqueous	
4	composition for at least one day.	
1	19. The method of claim 17, wherein the step of storing the first aqueous composition	
2	comprises storing the first aqueous composition for at least one week, and wherein the	
3	step of storing the second aqueous composition comprises storing the second aqueous	
4	composition for at least one week.	
1	20. The method of claim 17, further comprising the steps of:	

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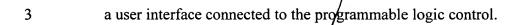
2	mixing a third aqueous composition, the third aqueous composition selected from
3	the group of aqueous compositions, the third aqueous composition being a different one
4	of the group of premixed aqueous compositions than the first aqueous composition or the
5	second aqueous composition;
6	mixing a fourth aqueous composition, the fourth aqueous composition selected
7	from the group of aqueous compositions, the fourth aqueous composition being a
8	different one of the group of premixed aqueous compositions than the first aqueous
9	composition, the second aqueous composition, or the third aqueous composition;
10	storing the third aqueous composition in a third supply reservoir; and
11	storing the fourth aqueous composition in a fourth supply reservoir.
1	21. The method of claim 20, wherein the first premixed aqueous paint composition is
2	the pigment composition.
1	22. The method of claim 21, wherein the second premixed aqueous paint composition
2	is the dispersant thickening agent.
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1	23. The method of claim 22, further comprising the step of supplying the third
2	aqueous composition from the third supply reservoir to the receiving reservoir.
1	24. The method of claim 23, further comprising the step of supplying the fourth
2	aqueous composition from the fourth supply reservoir to the receiving reservoir.
1	25. The method of claim 24, wherein the pigment composition comprises titanium
2	dioxide in the range of 40 to 50 percent, water of about 25 percent, a mixture of clay and
3	silica of about 15 percent, a viscosity controlling agent of about 10 percent, and a

- 4 combination of dispersant and thickener in an amount of less than 5 percent, said
- 5 percentages being based on weight of the pigment composition.
- 1 26. The method of claim 25, wherein the dispersant thickening agent comprises water
- 2 in an amount of about 93 percent, a phosphate-based dispersant in an amount of less than
- 3 1 percent, a cellulosic thickener in an amount of about 1 percent, and a coalescent in an
- 4 amount of 4 to 5 percent.
- 1 27. The method of claim 26, wherein the high resin content binder comprises resin in
- an amount of about 80 percent, water at about 15 percent and a coalescent at about 2
- 3 percent.
- 1 28. The method of claim 27, wherein the low resin content binder comprises about 50
- 2 percent resin, about 28 percent water, about 7 percent flattening agent, about 11 percent
- 3 limestone, and about 3.5 percent calcined clay.
- 1 29. The method of claim 17, further comprising the step of mixing the aqueous paint
- 2 composition.
- 1 30. The method of claim 29, further comprising the step of selling the aqueous paint
- 2 composition to a consumer.
- 1 31. The method of claim 30, wherein the steps of storing the first aqueous
- 2 composition, storing the second aqueous composition, supplying the first aqueous
- 3 composition, supplying the second aqueous composition, mixing the aqueous paint
- 4 composition, and selling the aqueous paint composition to a consumer are all performed
- 5 in the same location.

1	32. An apparatus comprising:
2	a first supply reservoir containing a first premixed composition selected from a
3	group of compositions consisting of a pigment composition, a dispersant thickening
4	agent, a high resin content binder, and a low resin content binder;
5	a second supply reservoir containing a second premixed composition selected
6	from the group of compositions, wherein the second premixed composition is a different
7	one of the group of compositions than the first premixed composition;
8	a first valve fluidly connected to the first supply reservoir;
9	a second valve fluidly connected to the second supply reservoir;
10	an actuator system connected the first valve and the second valve;
11	a receiving reservoir fluidly connected to the first valve and the second valve;
12	a measuring system that measures a first flow amount of the first premixed
13	composition supplied from the first supply reservoir to the receiving reservoir and that
14	measures a second flow amount of the second premixed composition supplied from the
15	second supply reservoir to the receiving reservoir; and
16	a control system connected to the measuring system;
17	wherein the measuring system emits a first amount signal that represents the first
18	flow amount and wherein the measuring system emits a second amount signal that
19	represents the second flow amount, the control system receiving the first amount signal
20	and the second amount signal;
21	wherein the control system emits a first close signal to the actuator system when
22	the first amount signal indicates that the first flow amount equals a first predetermined
23	amount, thereby prompting the actuator system to close the first valve; and
24	wherein the control system emits a second close signal to the actuator system
25	when the second amount signal indicates that the second flow amount equals a second
26	predetermined amount, thereby prompting the actuator system to close the second valve.

1	33. Th	ne apparatus of claim 32, wherein the actuator system comprises a first actuator
2	connected	I to the first valve and a second actuator connected to the second valve.
1	34. Th	ne apparatus of claim 32, further comprising:
2	a t	hird supply reservoir containing a third premixed composition selected from the
3	group of o	compositions, wherein the third premixed composition is a different one of the
4	group of o	compositions than the first premixed composition or the second premixed
5	compositi	on;
6	a t	hird valve fluidly connected to the third supply reservoir and the receiving
7	reservoir,	the third valve being connected to the actuator system;
8	wl	herein the measuring system measures a third flow amount of the third premixed
9	compositi	on supplied from the third supply reservoir to the receiving reservoir;
10	wl	herein the measuring system emits a third amount signal that represents the third
11	flow amo	unt;
12	wl	herein the control system receives the third amount signal; and
13	wl	herein the control system emits a third close signal to the actuator system when
14	the third a	amount signal indicates that the third flow amount equals a third predetermined
15	amount, t	hereby prompting the actuator system to close the third valve.
1	35. Th	ne apparatus of claim 34, further comprising:
2	a i	fourth supply reservoir containing a fourth premixed composition selected from
3	the group	of compositions, wherein the fourth premixed composition is a different one of
4	the group	of compositions than the first premixed composition, the second premixed
5	compositi	on, or the third premixed composition;
6	a i	fourth valve fluidly connected to the fourth supply reservoir and the receiving
7	reservoir,	the fourth valve being connected to the actuator system;

8		wherein the measuring system measures a fourth flow amount of the fourth
9	premix	xed composition supplied from the fourth supply reservoir to the receiving
10	reservo	pir;
11		wherein the measuring system emits a fourth amount signal that represents the
12	fourth	flow amount;
13		wherein the control system receives the fourth amount signal; and
14		wherein the control system emits a fourth close signal to the actuator system wher
15	the fou	orth amount signal indicates that the fourth flow amount equals a fourth
16	predete	ermined amount, thereby prompting the actuator system to close the fourth valve.
1	36.	The apparatus of claim 32, further comprising:
2		a first pump fluidly connected to the first supply reservoir and the first valve; and
3		a second pump fluidly connected to the second supply reservoir and the second
4	valve.	
1	37.	The apparatus of claim 32, wherein the receiving reservoir is a paint bucket.
1	38.	The apparatus of claim 32,
2		wherein the measuring system measures weight;
3		wherein the first flow amount is a weight amount; and
4		wherein the second flow amount is a weight amount.
1	39.	The apparatus of claim/38, wherein the measuring system measures a weight of
2	the rec	eiving reservoir.
1	40.	The apparatus of claim 32, wherein the control system comprises:
2		a programmable logic control; and
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- 1 41. The apparatus of claim 40, wherein the user interface prompts a user to input
- 2 desired paint characteristics and the programmable logic control uses the desired paint
- 3 characteristics to determine the first prodetermined amount and the second predetermined
- 4 amount that will produce a paint with the desired paint characteristics.

A method of producing an aqueous paint composition comprising the steps of:
storing a first premixed composition in a first supply reservoir, the first premixed
composition selected from a group of compositions consisting of a pigment composition,
a dispersant thickening agent, a high resin content binder, and a low resin content binder;
storing a second premixed composition in a second supply reservoir, the second
premixed composition selected from the group of compositions, wherein the second
premixed composition is a different one of the group of compositions than the first
premixed composition;
determining a first predetermined amount of the first premixed composition;
determining a second predetermined amount of the second premixed composition;
supplying the first premixed composition from the first supply reservoir to a
receiving reservoir;
supplying the second premixed composition from the second supply reservoir to
the receiving reservoir;
measuring a first flow amount of the first premixed composition supplied from the
first supply reservoir to the receiving reservoir;
measuring a second flow amount of the second premixed composition supplied
from the second supply reservoir to the receiving reservoir;
ceasing supply of the first premixed composition from the first supply reservoir to
the receiving reservoir when the first flow amount equals the first predetermined amount;
and
ceasing supply of the second premixed composition from the second supply
reservoir to the receiving reservoir when the second flow amount equals the second

predetermined amount.

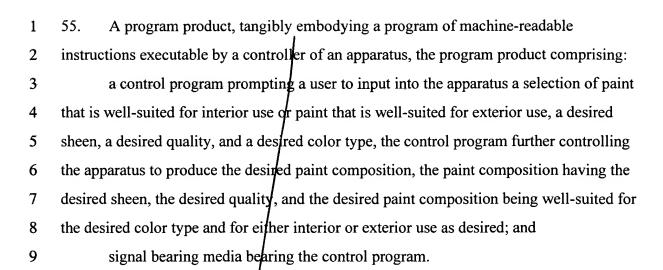
1	43. The method of claim 42,
2	wherein the step of ceasing supply of the first premixed composition comprises
3	closing a first valve that is fluidly connected to the first supply reservoir and that is
4	fluidly connected to the receiving reservoir; and
5	wherein the step of ceasing supply of the second premixed composition comprises
6	closing a second valve that is fluidly connected to the second supply reservoir and that is
7	fluidly connected to the receiving reservoir.
1	44. The method of claim 42, further comprising the steps of:
2	storing a third premixed composition in a third supply reservoir, the third
3	premixed composition selected from the group of compositions, wherein the third
4	premixed composition is a different one of the group of compositions than the first
5	premixed composition or the second premixed composition;
6	determining a third predetermined amount of the third premixed composition;
7	supplying the third premixed composition from the third supply reservoir to the
8	receiving reservoir;
9	measuring a third flow amount of the third premixed composition supplied from
10	the third supply reservoir to the receiving reservoir; and
11	ceasing supply of the third premixed composition from the third supply reservoir
12	to the receiving reservoir when the third flow amount equals the third predetermined
13	amount.
1	45. The method of claim 44, further comprising the steps of:
1	-1
2	storing a fourth premixed composition in a fourth supply reservoir, the fourth
3	premixed composition selected from the group of compositions, wherein the fourth
4	premixed composition is a different one of the group of compositions than the first

5	premix	ted composition, the second premixed composition, or the third premixed
6	compo	sition;
7		determining a fourth predetermined amount of the fourth premixed composition;
8		supplying the fourth premixed composition from the fourth supply reservoir to the
9	receivi	ng reservoir;
10		measuring a fourth flow amount of the fourth premixed composition supplied
11	from th	ne fourth supply reservoir to the receiving reservoir; and
12		ceasing supply of the fourth premixed composition from the fourth supply
13	reservo	oir to the receiving reservoir when the fourth flow amount equals the fourth
14	predete	ermined amount.
1	46.	The method of claim 42,
2		wherein the step of supplying the first premixed composition comprises pumping
3	the firs	et premixed composition; and
4		wherein the step of supplying the second premixed composition comprises
5	pumpii	ng the second premixed composition.
1	47.	The method of claim 42, wherein the steps of supplying the first premixed
2	compo	sition and ceasing supply of the first premixed composition are completed before
3	the step	ps of supplying the second premixed composition and ceasing supply of the second
4	premix	ed composition have begun.
1	48.	The method of claim 47,
2		wherein the step of measuring the first flow amount comprises measuring a
3	weight	of the receiving reservoir; and
4		wherein the step of measuring the second flow amount comprises measuring a
5	weight	of the receiving reservoir.

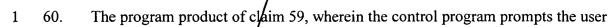
1	49. The apparatus of claim 48,
2	wherein the step of measuring the first flow amount comprises recalibrating a
3	scale before measuring the weight of the receiving reservoir; and
4	wherein the step of measuring the second flow amount comprises recalibrating the
5	scale before measuring the weight of the receiving reservoir.
6	50. The apparatus of claim 42,
7	wherein the step of determining a first predetermined amount comprises
8	calculating the first predetermined amount using desired paint characteristics that have
9	been input into a user interface by a user;
10	wherein the step of determining a second predetermined amount comprises
11	calculating the second predetermined amount using the desired paint characteristics; and
12	wherein the first predetermined amount and the second predetermined amount are
13	calculated so that the method will produce a paint composition having the desired
14	characteristics.

- 1 51. The method of claim 50, wherein the desired characteristics comprise a desired
- 2 sheen, a desired color type, a desired quality, a desired quantity, and whether the paint
- 3 composition will be for interior or exterior use.

	<b>\</b>
1	52. A method of producing a desired paint composition, the method comprising the
12	steps of:
1/3	providing an apparatus for producing a paint composition;
4	prompting a user to input into the apparatus a selection of either interior or
5	exterior paint;
6	prompting a user to input into the apparatus a desired sheen;
7	prompting a user to input into the apparatus a desired color type; and
8	automatically producing the desired paint composition, the step of automatically
9	producing the desired paint composition being performed by the apparatus, the paint
10	composition having the desired sheen and the desired paint composition further being
11	well-suited for the desired color type and for either interior or exterior use as desired.
1	53. The method of claim 52, further comprising the step of prompting a user to input
2	into the apparatus a desired quality, wherein the paint composition has the desired
3	quality.
1	54. The method of claim 53, wherein the step of automatically producing the desired
2	paint composition comprises:
3	placing a first aqueous composition in a receiving reservoir, the first aqueous
4	composition selected from a group of premixed aqueous compositions consisting of a
5	pigment composition, a dispersant thickening agent, a high resin content binder, and a
6	low resin content binder; and
7	placing a second aqueous composition in the receiving reservoir, the second
8	aqueous composition selected from the group of premixed aqueous compositions, the
9	second aqueous composition being a different one of the group of premixed aqueous
10	compositions than the first aqueous composition.



- 1 56. The program product of claim 55, wherein the signal bearing media comprises
- 2 transmission media.
- 1 57. The program product of claim 55, wherein the signal bearing media comprises recordable media.
- 1 58. The program product of claim 55, wherein the control program prompts the user
- 2 to select the desired sheen from a plurality of sheens, the plurality of sheens comprising
- 3 flat, low sheen, egg shell semi gloss, and high gloss if the user selects interior use, and
- 4 the plurality of sheens comprising flat, low sheen, satin, semi gloss, and high gloss if the
- 5 user selects exterior use
- 1 59. The program product of claim 58, wherein the control program prompts the user
- 2 to select the desired color type from a plurality of color types, the plurality of color types
- 3 comprising white, pastel, tinting, deep tone, and neutral.



- 2 to select the desired quality from a plurality of qualities, the plurality of qualities
- 3 comprising retail, professional and economy.

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